

Great Lakes Sports & Recreation Club
P.O. Box 152
Escanaba, Michigan 49829

December 2, 2018

Attn: Tourism and Outdoor Recreation Committee
SB 1035: Tax Exemption for Charitable Sportsmen's Clubs



The Great Lakes Sports and Recreation Club (GLSRC) would like to extend our support for the SB 1035: Tax Exemption for Charitable Sportsmen's Clubs.

The GLSRC is a 501c3 non-profit club that was established sixty years ago. GLSRC is located on 43 acres in Escanaba and has 10 outdoor and 2 indoor shooting ranges offering shotgun, rifle, pistol and archery shooting opportunities. Our club house has a meeting/banquette hall with a full functioning kitchen.

The GLSRC has always been focused on providing hunting and shooting education and providing a place for members and the public to safely participate in the shooting sports. We offer several educational programs for adults, disabled and youth sportsmen. The GLSRC facility is also routinely utilized by other organizations for educational and shooting functions.

The GLSRC has focused considerable efforts on the training and education of youth not only in the safe handling of firearms, but also teaching hunting ethics and conservation. We offer an 8 week summer program that allows area youth to participate in shotgun shooting, .22 rifle and archery under the direct supervision of a certified range officer. This program has been running for more than 13 years with over 3000 youth attendees and is provided at no cost. We also provide a after school winter youth archery program, this program provides an opportunity for all age groups to learn the sport. The GLSRC also hosts a local 4H group twice monthly for shooting both rim fire rifle and archery.

While the club has an active membership we also extend our facility to nonmembers offering, public sight-in-days prior to firearm season and offer public shooting on all ranges with members throughout the year. The meeting/banquette hall is also offered to members and non-members for benefits, fund raisers, CPL classes, hunter safety classes, church groups, Youth National Hunting and Fishing day and disabled sportsmen's groups.

Local, State and Federal law enforcement agencies use the club facilities for various training and meeting activities. The Michigan DNR routinely uses our facilities to hold public educational meetings on habitat, hunting and wildlife topics.

We at the Great Lakes Sports & Recreation Club would like to encourage the pursuit and passage of SB 1035: Tax exemption for Charitable Sportsmen's Clubs. SB 1035 would allow our Club to expand and improve these services and programs we offer to the our members, the community and youth.

Sincerely,
Great Lakes Sports & Recreation Club

Bill Cobb
Bill Cobb, President

Jerry Petersen
Jerry Petersen, Board Member